GREEK 311R: THE GOSPEL OF LUKE  
Spring 2003  
MWF 12:00 noon–1:50 p.m.  
(v. 2.1)

Course Description: This term Greek 311R will study the Third Gospel, traditionally ascribed to Luke. One of the most literary books of the Greek Testament, the Gospel of Luke provides a good transition from Classical Greek to the Koine idiom common in the “New” Testament. More importantly, it provides a carefully crafted account of our Lord’s life and mission “to save that which is lost” (Luke 19:10) that includes many well-know and much-beloved episodes. Together with the Book of Acts, the Gospel of Luke provides a singular presentation of what Conzelmann first dubbed Heilsgeschichte or “salvation history.”

We shall begin our study by first exploring the nature of the received text—including its language, transmission, and generic form—and shall then discuss some of the major themes of the gospel, particularly those issues and constituencies—such as women, Gentiles, the poor—that are central to Luke’s gospel. The bulk of the semester will be engaged in translating and studying the gospel. Unless otherwise noted, all primary readings will be done in Greek.

This Course at BYU: According to the university document “The Aims of a BYU Education,” your experience on campus and in this classroom should be spiritually strengthening, intellectually enlarging, character building, and lead to lifelong learning and service. Additionally, your instructor is committed to creating and maintaining a class room environment that will foster respect and excitement about learning while being conducive to the expression of gospel principles.

Students, too, have a responsibility in maintaining a positive class room experience. Since so much of our time this semester will be involved in oral translation and class discussion, it is imperative that students be courteous and helpful to each other.

This course will provide us with a particular opportunity to study not only the Greek in which the Third Gospel was composed, but the theology that it contains. Although secondary readings will acquaint students with secular biblical scholarship—and hopefully they will learn something beneficial thereby—they are not intended or viewed as necessarily definitive. The teachings of latter-day prophets and apostles will be admitted as authoritative and decisive. More importantly, the individual student will hopefully have the text and its meaning unfolded by the Spirit as he or she carefully—and prayerfully—studies the Third Gospel.
Texts: The following texts are available in the B.Y.U. Bookstore and will be used regularly throughout the class:


Additionally, the following are important references and commentaries, some of which are being held on reserve or can be found in the Ancient Studies Room or in the Humanities Reference area:


Note that several of the commentaries are from important series, i.e. The Anchor Bible, The New International Greek Testament Commentary, and the New International Commentary on the New Testament, series with which you should become familiar.

For their own study, Latter-day Saints will find an English edition of the epistles that includes the JST useful—e.g., Steven and Julie Hite’s, *The New Testament with the Joseph Smith Translation*.

**On-line Resources:** Students are also encouraged to access the course Blackboard module, where announcements, class presentations, handouts, and other materials will be available. To use Blackboard, one should log onto Route Y and then click the Blackboard Courses link listed under “School.” If a student is enrolled in the course, then “Greek 311R Luke” should then appear as a subsequent link. Grades on assignments will be entered in the Blackboard spreadsheet within one week of their return to students; they should check each assignment after that time to confirm that scores have been recorded accurately.


**Requirements:** The student should come prepared each day having already translated the assigned Greek passages and having completed any secondary readings. Exams, reports, and the paper are due when scheduled, and late work will not be accepted. Only in cases of extreme duress (in medical cases with a physician’s note) will the instructor make exceptions. B.Y.U. dress, grooming, and behavior standards will be enforced. Grades will be calculated by the following formula:

- Class translation, discussion, and participation: 10%
- Quizzes (5% each): 10%
Research Paper 10%
Midterm Examination 30%
Final Examination 40%

The two quizzes are largely diagnostic and will prepare the students for the exams by providing them with a single passage to translate, analyze grammatically, and briefly comment on. The paper will be a detailed study of a passage or issue, the topic of which must be cleared with the teacher. Examinations will consist of passages that students will translate and for which they will provide grammatical and theological commentary. They will also include an essay or essays that will address, briefly, important topics discussed in class.

B.Y.U. dress, grooming, and behavior standards will be enforced.

The standard scale will be 93-100% A, 90-92% A-, 88-89% B+, 83-87% B, 80-82% B-, u.s.w. Students are responsible for the grades that they earn; if one needs a certain grade for academic reasons, then he or she should plan accordingly. There will be no extra credit.

**Readings Key**

| ABD | Anchor Bible Dictionary |
| Brown BM | Brown, R.E. *The Birth of the Messiah.* |
| Brown DM | Brown, R.E. *The Death of the Messiah.* |
| SS 5 | *The Gospels* (Studies in Scriptures vol. 5) |
| Wallace | Wallace, D.B., *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* |

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

Unless otherwise noted, all biblical readings are to be done in Greek.

W30Apr **Introduction. Language and Text:** Brown *INT*, 48–54; USB4, 1*–52* (skim tables); Wallace, 14–30, look over 726–64; BDAG, xi–xxviii, review table of contents.; BDF, 1–6.

M05May **Annunciations:** Luke 1:1–38; Reid, 55–70 (Elizabeth and Mary); Tannehill, 33–51. *See also:* Brown BM, 235–329.

W07May **Magnificat, Benedictus:** Luke 1:39–80; Reid, 70–85 (Elizabeth and Mary); Tannehill, 51–63. *See also:* Brown BM, 330–392.

F09May **No class.**

M12May **Infancy, Nunc Demittis, Childhood:** Luke 2; Esler, 110–114; Reid, 86–95 (Anna); Tannehill, 63–77. *See also:* Brown BM, 393–496.

W14May **The Beginnings of the Mission:** Luke 3:1–4:44; Esler, 30–45 (*n.b.* the pious Gentile), 164–187 (the poor); Reid, 96–102 (Peter’ mother-in-law); Tannehill, 77–99.


M19May **The Sermon on the Plain; the Centurion and the Woman; John and Jesus:** Luke 6:27–7:50; Marshall, 116–156; Reid, 103–123 (widow of Nain; woman showing great love); Tannehill, 99–134. *Quiz #1.*

W21May **Disciples, Women, and the Twelve:** Luke 8:1–9:17; Reid, 124–143 (Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna; Jairus’ daughter, woman hemorrhaging); Tannehill, 134–157.

F23May **Transfiguration; Weakness of the Disciples; the Good Samaritan; Choosing “the Better Part”:** Luke 9:18–10:42; Matthews SS 5, 305–311 (transfiguration and keys; see D&C 110); Reid, 144–162 (Mary and Martha); Tannehill, 157–187.

M26May **MEMORIAL DAY. No class.**

**MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

Tu27–W28May; late Th29May

Tu 12:00 p.m.  8:00 p.m. (last exam); W&Th 10:00 a.m.  8:00 p.m. (last exam)


F30May **Discourse to the Crowd II; Discourse at Dinner:** Luke 12:35–14:24; Reid, 163–178 (bent woman, woman mixing dough); Tannehill, 210–235.

M02Jun **Parables for Disciples and Pharisees:** Luke 14:25–16:31; Draper SS 5, 262–278; Reid, 179–189 (woman searching for lost coin); Tannehill, 235–254.

W04Jun **The Samaritan Leper; Realized and Final Eschatology; Assorted Teachings:** Luke 17:1–18:30; Marshall, 77–115; Reid, 190–194 (persistent woman); Tannehill, 254–272.

F06Jun **SHAVUOT. The Blind Beggar; Zacchaeus; Lament over Jerusalem; Triumphal Entry; Cleansing of the Temple:** Luke 18:31–20:18; Tannehill, 272–287.

Su08Jun **PENTECOST. Acts 2; John 14:8-17, 16:5-15, 20:19-23;1 Corinthians 12:3-13.**

M09Jun **Teachings in the Temple:** Luke 20:19–21:38; Reid, 195–197 (widow who gives all);


PAPERS DUE by 5:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m., FINAL EXAMINATION